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MEDIA ADVISORY

3600 Workman Mill Road / Whittier, CA 90601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE DATE: **Oct. 17, 2016**

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Rio Hondo College Production of 'The Laramie Project' Explores Aftermath of the Murder of a Gay College Student

WHAT: Rio Hondo College will stage a production of "The Laramie Project," a play chronicling the life of the town of Laramie, Wyoming during the year after Matthew Shepard, a gay University of Wyoming student, was tortured and killed near the town.

WHEN: 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 3 to Saturday, Nov. 5; 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6

WHERE: Wray Theater, Rio Hondo College, 3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier

DETAILS: The play was written by Moises Kaufman and members of the Tectonic Theater Project, who conducted hundreds of interviews of Laramie residents in the months after Shepard was slain in 1998.

The three-act play will be directed by Kirk Vichengrad and performed by more than 20 Rio Hondo College students, who will portray some 60 characters; all dialogue is taken directly from the Laramie interviews and journal entries of Tectonic Theater Project members.

During the play's run, the lobby of the Wray Theater will be turned into an informational center about issues related to gender and sexual orientation. A portion of the proceeds of concession sales will benefit advocacy groups.

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Rio Hondo College, located in Whittier, California, is committed to the success of its diverse students and communities by providing dynamic educational opportunities and resources that lead to degrees, certificates, transfer, career and technical pathways, basic skills proficiency, and lifelong learning. For information on the College or its programs, please call 562-692-0921 or visit www.riohondo.edu.